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JACQUELINE D. SOCCORSO

Date: September 22, 2009

To: Daniel E. Quick, Village Administrator

From: Jacqueline D. Soccorso, Director 
Environmental Quality Department

Environmental Quality Administrative Report for August 1st through September 21st

Wauconda Sand and Gravel Landfill

The Wauconda Sand and Gravel Landfill discharges leachate to the Village's sanitary sewer system. It holds a wastewater discharge permit issued by the Village and it also holds a water pollution control permit issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) also has regulatory authority over this site because it is on the National Priorities List. The Environmental Quality Department collects leachate samples and monitors the concentration of pollutants that are discharged to the Village's sanitary sewer system. The Department also reviews the additional sample results and reports submitted by the landfill. The Public Works Department conducts three site visits per week to monitor the operation of the landfill.



IEPA and Village representatives inspect the leachate pumping station.

During the reporting period, Village staff met twice to discuss the landfill's current proposal to discharge additional leachate flows. The landfill is requesting approval from the Village to dewater the south side of the landfill as required by USEPA. The Environmental Quality Director and Village Engineer are working closely with the landfill's engineering consultant to determine the conditions under which additional leachate may be accepted into the sanitary sewer system. At the present time, the Village is obligated under contract to accept and treat a maximum of 4,000 gallons per day of landfill leachate.

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Circle Channel Spillway Restoration

Phase I of the Circle Channel Restoration is complete. New infrastructure, a vegetated swale, and native plants have been installed. Currently, stormwater still moves through the existing concrete channel. Phase II will take place next year after the plants establish themselves. At that time, the concrete spillway will be removed or buried and stormwater will be diverted to the swale. When this project is complete, stormwater that moves through the swale will be naturally "cleaned" prior to being discharged to the Circle Channel. A primary goal of this project is to see a reduction in the amount of solids entering the channel. This project was funded, in part, though a grant awarded by the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission.



Circle Channel Spillway before.



Circle Channel Spillway Phase I.



New plantings.



New drainage swale.

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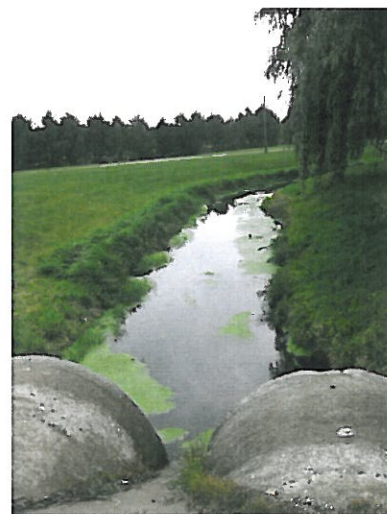
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Stream Sampling

The Village's NPDES permit requires the Village to participate with IEPA in a five-year stream study of Fiddle Creek. The Environmental Quality Department collects samples from six different locations twice per month during the months of April through October. During the reporting period, samples were collected on August 12, September 2, September 9, and September 16. The second scheduled sample collection date in August was rained out, so a third date was added in September. This is Year 4 of the study.



Stream study sample point C3- located 2.4 miles downstream of the Village's WWTP outfall.

EQ Webpage

The Environmental Quality Director has been working with the Assistant Village Administrator on updating the EQ webpage. The current page is very limited in terms of the information provided. The new webpage will include better descriptions of EQ programs along with links to applications, forms, ordinances, mosquito abatement, hazardous emissions, phosphorus-free fertilizers, curbside recycling guidelines, plastic bag recycling information, proper disposal of unwanted medications and personal care products, Bangs Lake info, weed harvesting, environmental initiatives, and a list of helpful local and national environmental groups.

Industrial Pretreatment Program Reports and Surveys

Bi-annual continued compliance reports, annual slug control surveys, and annual wastewater surveys were sent to all significant industrial users and zero discharge categorical industrial users. This list includes Stack-On Products, PMI Sports Photography, Wauconda Sand and Gravel Landfill, Synergy Flavors Inc., Wikoff Color Corporation, Kellerman Manufacturing, Duro-Chrome Industries, Morgan Bronze Products, Inc., and Krebs Custom, Inc. The Village is required to collect this information pursuant to the requirements set forth in the 2004 Consent Order and Village ordinance.

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Requests for Service

During the reporting period, 8 requests for service were received and investigated. These were:

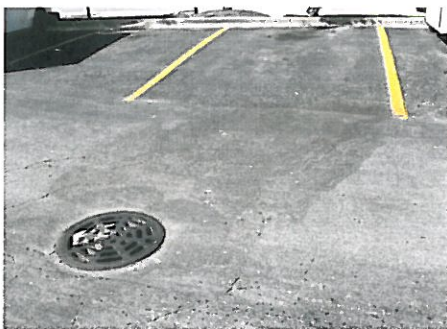
- restaurant grease dumpster odor
- grease blockage in sanitary sewer line
- garbage dumpster contents leaking into Bangs Lake
- residential site-improper cooking grease disposal into storm sewer system
- Bangs Lake Drain-large tress cut down, drain blocked with litter, landscape waste, and other debris
- commercial site-improper cooking grease disposal into storm sewer system
- unidentified orange liquid in drainage ditch
- Bangs Lake-weed growth and maintenance



Unidentified orange substance.



Unidentified orange substance.



Grease staining around storm sewer inlet.



Bangs Lake Drain debris.

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Industrial Pretreatment Presentation for PW

The Environmental Quality Director gave a presentation to the Public Works Department Sewer Division regarding the pretreatment program, stream study, and related IEPA requirements.

Local Limits Study

The term "local limits" refers to specific maximum concentrations of pollutants that are permitted to be discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Now that the wastewater treatment plant expansion is complete and has been online for at least one year, it is time to do another local limits study. A list of priority pollutants, wastewater sample locations, and sample dates has been prepared. Sampling begins in October 2009 and continues through December 2010. The entire study is estimated to take 18 months to complete.

Lake Level

The water level in Bangs Lake is monitored at a minimum of once per week by either the Environmental Quality Department or Public Works Department. One of two places the lake level can be measured is at Kimball Channel, north of Rte 176. The season runs May 1 to September 30. We are now approaching the end of the season. The flow control bars that have been placed at the outlet to hold back water will be removed at the end of the month. This allows the lake to drain sufficiently in order to be able to accommodate the spring snow melt and rainfall. This reduces the likelihood of flooding.



Bangs Lake outlet with bars installed.



Kimball Channel, north of Rte 176.



Permanent benchmark used to measure lake level.



Measuring lake level.

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Clean Air Counts Initiative

A recent edition of Crain's Chicago Business contained a full-page ad supporting the Clean Air Counts initiative. The Village of Wauconda is listed as participating community.



Training

The Environmental Quality Director participated in a pretreatment teleconference conducted by USEPA Region 5. The Environmental Quality Director entered the Master of Public Administration Program at Norwich University.

Commercial Waste Hauling

The Environmental Quality Director is working with the Economic Development Coordinator to evaluate the possibility of a commercial waste hauling contract.

SWALCO Update

During the reporting period, the Environmental Quality Director attended one SWALCO Board meeting and two SWALCO Executive Committee meetings. In the 2nd Qtr 2009, 258.48 tons of recyclable material was collected from the Village. Market values for recyclables continue to be down from the past years record highs. As such, the Village will not be receiving any recycling payments through the SWALCO Per Ton Payment Program for the 2nd quarter. However, it appears as though the market is slowly rising and the Village may receive a recycling payment for the 3rd quarter.

SWALCO has received formal notice from IEPA that it will honor its contract with SWALCO to provide household chemical waste collection financial support through June 30, 2010. In order for SWALCO to continue providing this service after that date, a different funding source must be identified. SWALCO is working hard on determining potential funding sources and options for continuing the household chemical waste collection program.

SWALCO has instituted a plastic bag and film recycling program in Lake County pursuant to the Plastic Bag Recycling Act. Items accepted include dry cleaning bags, bread bags, furniture and electronic wrap, plastic retail bags, produce bags, and cereal box liners. The Wauconda Walgreens and Jewel-Osco are local drop-off centers for these items.

SWALCO is searching out grant opportunities to bring C&D (construction and demolition) waste recycling and food scrap composting to Lake County.